

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 LIBREV 00209 311916Z

14

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 FAA-00 /074 W

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R 311413Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7353

INFO AMEMASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIBREVILLE 0209

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PINR, GB

SUBJ: SOVIET AN-30 IN LIBREVILLE

REF: A. MONROVIA 0772, B. LIBREVILLE 0173

1. JAN. 29 NEWS ARTICLE REPEATS STATEMENT BY SOVIET EMBASSY CONCERNING AN-30 VISIT TO LIBREVILLE. SOVIETS SAID PLANE WAS CARRYING OUT DEMONSTRATION FLIGHTS ORGANIZED BY THEIR DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN COMMERCE, AND ADDED INTERESTING NOTE THAT THIS AIRCRAFT NOT USED FOR PURPOSES OF MILITARY RECONNAISSANCE BUT FOR AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND MAP-MAKING. ARTICLE ALSO STATES PLANE WAS "HELD" IN LIBREVILLE UNTIL JAN. 28, IMPLYING THAT THIS WAS AGAINST SOVIETS' WISHES.

2. COMMENT: GABONESE NOT LIKELY TO CHANGE THEIR OPINION THAT AN-30'S PURPOSE WAS INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION. IF AIRCRAFT'S VISIT WAS LEGITIMATE, THEN SOVIETS BUNGLED IT BADLY. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: morefirh
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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